

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SP-03 AID-20 EB-11 NSC-07 RSC-01

CIEP-02 TRSE-00 SS-20 STR-08 OMB-01 CEA-02 L-03 H-03

PA-04 PRS-01 USIA-15 SWF-02 CIAE-00 COME-00 FRB-02

INR-10 NSAE-00 LAB-06 SIL-01 SAM-01 AEC-11 DODE-00

FEA-02 FPC-01 INT-08 PM-07 SCI-06 EA-11 IO-14 NEA-10

OPIC-12 AF-10 OIC-04 DRC-01 /246 W
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R 051755Z APR 74

FM USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6683

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY PARIS

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USMISSION OECD PARIS

UNCLAS SECTION 01 OF 02 EC BRUSSELS 2068

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ENRG, EEC, FR

SUBJECT: ENERGY: FRENCH STATEMENT ON ENERGY POLICY AT APRIL 1-2
EC COUNCIL MEETING

REF: EC BRUSSELS 1989, EC BRUSSELS 2025

1. THE APRIL 1-2 EC COUNCIL SESSION (FOREIGN MINISTERS)
REVIEWED ALL THE CONTINGENCY MEASURES PROPOSED BY THE EC
COMMISSION IN THE ENERGY SECTOR (EC BRUSSELS 362) AND
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INSTRUCTED THE COMMITTEE OF PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVES TO

CONTINUE ITS WORK IN THIS FIELD. THERE WAS LITTLE SUB-
STANTIVE DISCUSSION. THE FRENCH REPRESENTATIVE THEN READ
THE TEXT OF A STATEMENT ON COMMON ENERGY POLICY.
THERE WERE NO REACTIONS BY THE OTHERS. MISSION
COMMENTS ARE CONTAINED IN A SEPTEL. FOLLWOING IS THE
MISSION'S INFORMAL TRANSLATION OF THE FRENCH STATEMENT.

2. BEGIN TEXT.

COMMON ENERGY POLICY.

MR. PRESIDENT: I WOULD LIKE FIRST OF ALL TO THANK THE
COMMISSION FOR THE IMPORTANT WORK OF REFLECTION AND OF
CONCEPTION PROVIDED IN THE DOCUMENT "TOWARDS A NEW STRATEGY
OF ENERGY POLICY FOR THE COMMUNITY" WHICH HAS JUST BEEN
TRANSMITTED TO THE REPRESENTATIVES OF OUR COUNTRIES IN THE
ENERGY COMMITTEE, WHICH WILL CONSIDER THE DOCUMENT NEXT
FRIDAY. I WOULD HAPE FOR MY PART THAT ALL THESE EFFORTS
WILL BE TRANSLATED AS RAPIDLY AS POSSIBLE INTO PROPOSALS,
IN THE PROPER FORM, ON WHICH THE COUNCIL WHOULD BE ABLE TO
TAKE A DECISION QUICKLY.

IN THIS PERSPECTIVE, IF YOU PERMIT, I WOULD LIKE TO SPECIFY
OUR IDEAS RELATIVE TO THE ESTABLISHMENT AND DEVELOPMENT OF
A TRUE COMMON ENERGY POLICY.

AS MY COLLEAGUES KNOW, THE FRENCH GOVERNMENT HAS FOR A LONG
TIME STRESSED THE NECESSITY AND URGENCY IN DEFINING AND
PUTTING INTO OPERATION A COMMON POLICY IN THE FIELD OF
ENERGY. THE SUCCESSION OF EVENTS WHICH HAVE TAKEN PLACE
IN THE LAST FEW MONTHS ILLUSTRATES THE NEED OF INCREASING
CONSIDERABLY THE RHYTHEM AND THE SCOPE OF THE WORK
IN PROGRESS WITH A VIEW TO DEFINING THAT POLICY ON THE
BASIS OF THE DIRECTIVES AGREED ON BY THE CHIEFS OF STATE
OR GOVERNMENT, MOST RECENTLY AT THE TIME OF THEIR MEETING
IN COPENHAGEN THE 14 AND 15 OF LAST DECEMBER.

TWO PRIORITY OBJECTIVES MUST BE ADHERED TO:

- THE SUPPLY AND ORDERLY FUNCTIONING OF THE MARKET:
- THE STRENGTHENING OF THE COMMUNITY'S SELF-SUFFICIENCY IN
ENERGY.

ALTHOUGH THESE TWO OBJECTIVES HAVE DIFFERENT TARGET DATES,
THEY BOTH REQUIRE THE LAUNCHING, WITHOUT DELAY, OF A COHERENT
PROGRAM OF COMMUNITY ACTIONS.

I WOULD LIKE TO INDICATE THE GUIDELINES WHICH SEEM TO ME TO
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BE REQUIRED FOR SUCH A PROGRAM.

1. INsofar AS SUPPLY AND ORDERLY FUNCTIONING OF THE MARKET ARE
CONCERNED, I WOULD STRESS THE FOLLWOING FOUR POINTS:

- A) IT IS NECESSARY, FIRST, TO HAVE AVAILABLE COMPLETE
INFORMATION ON THE CONDITIONS OF THE OPERATIONS AND SUPPLY
IN THE ENERGY MARKET. THE INFORMATION, LIMITED AT THE
PRESENT TIME TO INVESTMENT PROJECTS AND TO IMPORTS OF

HYDROCARBONS, MUST BE EXTENDED AS A MATTER OF PRIORITY TO THE PRICES OF CRUDE OIL;
B) A REAL COMMON MARKET IN ENERGY, INVOLVING PARTICULARLY THE FREE CIRCULATION OF ENERGY PRODUCTS WITHIN THE COMMUNITY CANNOT FUNCTION IN AN ORDERLY MANNER IF EXCESSIVE PRICE DIFFERENCES AND WIDELY DIFFERING SYSTEMS OF IMPORTATION ARE MAINTAINED AMONG MEMBER STATES. MUTUAL EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION AND CLOSE COOPERATION OF THE MEMBER STATES MUST THEREFORE BE SOUGHT WITH A VIEW TO ACHIEVING PROGRESSIVE HARMONIZATION OF ENERGY PRICES WITHIN THE COMMON MARKET, WHICH IMPLIES A CERTAIN HARMONIZATION OF FISCAL MEASURES.
C) THE COMMUNITY, THE LARGEST IMPORTER OF PETROLEUM IN THE WORLD, MUST ALSO CONCERN ITSELF WITH ALL THE CONDITIONS OF ACCESS TO ITS MARKET AND ASSURE ITSELF THAT THE COMPANIES ADHERE TO THE OBJECTIVES WHICH IT HAS FIXED, PARTICULARLY REGARDING PRICES AND GEOGRAPHIC DIVERSIFICATION OF THEIR SUPPLY, BY THE ADOPTION OF COMMUNITY REGULATIONS AND BY A COORDINATION WITH THE COMPANIES AUTHORIZED TO OPERATE IN THE MARKET. MORE GENERALLY, THE MEMBER STATES SHOULD ACT IN CONCERT IN THE FRAMEWORK OF THE COMMUNITY WITH REGARD TO THEIR POLICIES AND PROGRAMS OF SUPPLY IN ENERGY PRODUCTS: COMMON POSITIONS SHOULD EMERGE FROM THIS AS WELL AS A COORDINATION AND HARMONIZATION OF NATIONAL POLICIES.
D) ON THE OTHER HAND, WITH A VIEW TO MEETING ITS SUPPLY CRISIS, AN EXAMINATION OF THE PROBLEMS OF STOCKPILING, AND, PARTICULARLY IN THE IMMEDIATE FUTURE, OF THE STRICT APPLICATION OF THE 1972 DIRECTIVE RELATIVE TO STOCKS OF PETROLEUM PRODUCTS, IS OF PARTICULAR INTEREST.

2. IN ORDER TO REALIZE THE SECOND OBJECTIVE, THE STRENGTHENING OF ITS SELF-SUFFICIENCY IN ENERGY, THE COMMUNITY MUST ADOPT

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PRECISE OBJECTIVES, WITH TARGET DATES OF 1980 AND 1985, TO REDUCE VOLUNTARILY THE GROWTH OF CONSUMPTION AND TO LIMIT IMPORTS AS A RESULT OF THE DEVELOPMENT, UNDER SATISFACTORY ECONOMIC CONDITIONS, OF ITS OWN RESOURCES IN ENERGY.

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THE ENERGY COMMITTEE COULD BE GIVEN THE TASK OF VERIFYING
REGULARLY (EVERY SIX MONTHS, FOR EXAMPLE) THAT THE RESULTS
ACHIEVED ARE CONSISTENT WITH THE DEFINED OBJECTIVES, AND
PROPOSE, IF NECESSARY, MEASURES TO ASSURE THAT CONSISTENCY.
A GREATER SELF-SUFFICIENCY IN ENERGY FOR EUROPE COULD BE
OBTAINED BY THE FOLLOWING FOUR MEANS:

A) IN THE FIELD OF THE CONSERVATION OF ENERGY, THE
MEMBER STATES MUST TOGETHER EXCHANGE INFORMATION, INCLUDING
WITH RESPECT TO THEIR EXPERIENCES ON THE CONDITIONS OF
APPLICATION OF POLICIES THAT THEY FOLLOW IN THAT FIELD,
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IN ORDER TO AVOID HAVING MEASURES FOR THE REDUCTION OF
CONSUMPTION BRING ABOUT DISTORTIONS IN COMPETITION.
THE MEMBER STATES SHOULD EQUALLY GIVE THEIR ATTENTION TO
DEFINING TOGETHER NORMS FOR THE CONSERVATION OF ENERGY
IN THE PRINCIPAL SECTORS OF CONSUMPTION. IN JUSTIFIED

CASES, RESTRICTIVE MEASURES COULD BE ADOPTED IN COMMON, FOR EXAMPLE IN THE FIELD OF HEATING OR THE LIMITATION OF SPEED ON ROADS AND HIGHWAYS.

B) THE COMMUNITY MUST DEFINE THE CONDITIONS OF AN OPTIMUM DEVELOPMENT OF ITS ENERGY RESOURCES IN THE ECONOMIC SPHERE AND DEVELOP THE MEANS AT ITS DISPOSAL, OR THAT COULD BE AT ITS DISPOSAL, TO ENCOURAGE COOPERATION WITH A VIEW TOWARD APPLYING THEM. THE MEMBER STATES MUST CONSIDER THEIR POLICY OF DEVELOPMENT AND OF EXPLOITATION OF ENERGY RESOURCES AS A QUESTION OF COMMON INTEREST.

C) IN THE NUCLEAR FIELD, THE MEMBER STATES HAVE LAUNCHED, SEPARATELY OR IN COOPERATION, VERY IMPORTANT PROGRAMS OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT OF THE NUCLEAR PRODUCTION OF ELECTRICITY AND OF ENRICHED URANIUM SUPPLY. EFFORTS UNDERTAKEN TO SUPPORT THESE PROGRAMS MUST BE PURSUED IN SUCH A WAY THAT NUCLEAR ENERGY WILL REPRESENT AN IMPORTANT AND GROWING PERCENTAGE IN THE ENERGY BALANCE-SHEET OF EUROPE. IN CONFORMITY WITH THE DECISION TAKEN BY THE CHIEFS OF STATE OR OF GOVERNMENT ON DECEMBER 15, 1973 AT COPENHAGEN, THE COUNCIL MUST ALSO ADOPT A GLOBAL COMMUNITY PROGRAM TENDING TO ASSURE THE SECURITY OF SUPPLY IN NUCLEAR FUEL AND PARTICULARLY TO DEVELOP EUROPEAN CAPACITIES FOR URANIUM ENRICHMENT. RESEARCH EFFORTS MUST BE COORDINATED IN SUCH A WAY AS TO LEAD TO THE ADOPTION OF COMMON TECHNIQUES BY EUROPEAN INDUSTRY. FINALLY, COMMUNITY ACTION MUST BE PURSUED WITH A VIEW TO DEFINING AN ENSEMBLE OF COMMON NORMS IN THE FIELD OF SAFETY AND OF THE ENVIRONMENT.

D) FINALLY A GREATER SELF-SUFFICIENCY FOR EUROPE CALLS FOR A VAST TECHNOLOGICAL EFFORT. THE WORK UNDERTAKEN UNDER SPONSORSHIP OF THE SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL RESEARCH COMMITTEE MUST BE BROUGHT TO A SUCCESSFUL CONCLUSION AS SOON AS POSSIBLE IN SUCH A WAY AS TO PERMIT THE COMMITTEE TO PRESENT RAPIDLY A REPORT DEFINING THE PRIORITIES FOR THE CONDUCT OF COORDINATED ACTIONS AND OF COMMON ACTIONS, AS WELL AS OF COOPERATION

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AMONG THE MEMBER STATES. SIMILARLY, THE WORK UNDERTAKEN IN THIS AREA IN OTHER ORGANIZATIONS, IN PARTICULAR THE OECD, MUST BE USED PROFITABLY BY THE COMMUNITY. THE PRECISE DEFINITION AND THE OPERATION OF SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNOLOGICAL RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS WOULD CONSTITUTE THE FIRST TASK OF A EUROPEAN ENERGY AGENCY. ALREADY THE MECHANISM SET UP IN 1973 TO ENCOURAGE COMMUNITY TECHNOLOGICAL PROJECTS IN PETROLEUM MATTERS MUST BE UTILIZED SO AS TO PERMIT THE RAPID REALIZATION OF PROJECTS RECOGNIZED AS DESERVING INTEREST. SUBSEQUENTLY, THE FINANCIAL RESOURCES EXISTING IN THIS FRAMEWORK AND THE RESPONSIBILITY FOR

THEIR DISTRIBUTION COULD BE TRANSFERRED TO THE EUROPEAN
ENERGY AGENCY, A FRENCH PROPOSAL WHICH I HAVE HAD
MOREOVER THE OCCASION TO DISCUSS WITH YOU YOURSELF,
MR. PRESIDENT, AND OF WHICH ALL THE GOVERNMENTS OF THE
MEMBER STATES AS WELL AS THE COMMISSION HAVE BEEN KEPT
INFORMED.
CREATION OF A COMMON EUROPEAN ENERGY POLICY IS CERTAINLY
WORTHWHILE AND THIS IS WHAT I AM TRYING TO DO. BUT IS IT
DESIRED? END TEXT. GREENWALD

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